

PROTECTING GUN OWNERS IN
BANKRUPTCY ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer clarification for my vote in favor of H.R. 5827, the Protecting Gun Owners in Bankruptcy Act of 2010.

I have tremendous respect for our nation's Constitution. In 12 other states around the country, including my own state of Wisconsin, there are already State protections for gun ownership during bankruptcy proceedings. When the Federal Government, and other States, already give basic protections for personal property like jewelry and musical instruments, I believe that it is fundamentally unfair to deny a second amendment protected item from being included in this list.

I do, however, want to be clear that I remain steadfast in my support for the ability of the Federal Government, States, and cities to regulate firearms. There have been too many times that we have seen preventable deaths from guns that end up in the wrong person's hands. Representing the City of Milwaukee, I know first hand how important it is to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and others that cause harm and undermine safety in our communities. Within the last few years, six police officers were shot in my district using guns that were traced back to a single store. How did this one store seemingly sell so many guns to straw buyers—people purchasing the guns not for themselves, but on behalf of other people who are prohibited from buying, like convicted domestic abusers, felons, and people with outstanding warrants? Had Federal gun laws been adequate to properly regulate stores like this, and others around the country, I sincerely believe that much of the gun violence could be prevented.

My record for reducing gun violence in our communities is clear. This year I have sent a letter to the director of the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms asking what resources they might need to more efficiently enforce Federal firearm legislation. I have also sent a letter requesting that the Attorney General revitalize and expand upon an existing "demand letter" program that can give the BATFE essential information on potential problem Federal Firearm Licensees. Current firearm regulation at the Federal level is simply inefficient and I will continue to work hard with my colleagues to make our streets a safer place.

HONORING BRIAN MORTON AS THE
RECIPIENT OF THIS YEAR'S ANGELS
IN ADOPTION AWARD FOR
OREGON'S SECOND CONGRES-
SIONAL DISTRICT

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker and colleagues, you may be familiar with the Angels in Adoption program that provides Members of Congress an opportunity to recognize individ-

uals, couples or organizations that have made and extraordinary contribution on behalf of children in need of adoption and foster care. This year I am proud to select Brian Morton as the recipient of this year's Angels in Adoption Award for Oregon's Second Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, the people of southern Oregon hold a deep appreciation for Brian Morton. As a well-known and respected news anchor at Medford's ABC television affiliate, KDRV, Brian has developed a special program dedicated to raising awareness about the community need to find adoptive and foster families.

During the monthly feature, "Wednesday's Child," Brian and KDRV produce personalized segments on children who are eligible for adoption. Normally, potential adoptive families have little more than one photo and a minimal amount of text description on children available for adoption. But in "Wednesday's Child," the children are featured in poignant everyday activities where their stories are shared in a sensitive and heartfelt manner.

Madam Speaker, the response to "Wednesday's Child" has been so overwhelmingly positive that potential families from all over the United States have sought to adopt the featured children. In some cases, relatives, who were previously unknown, were able to get in contact with the children.

Because of Brian's dedication, adoptive children throughout southern Oregon now have a better possibility of finding loving families and a brighter future. Yet Brian's dedication to the cause of adoptive children does not wane when the cameras are turned off. With his wife, Laurie, they have remained involved in the community at large. Brian has served on the board of directors at CASA, the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Jackson County.

The work of Brian, Laurie, and Angels in Adoption helps raise public awareness about the need for adoptive and foster families. Every child deserves an opportunity to have a loving and supportive family, and Brian and Laurie are making sure that occurs one family at a time. For that, Madam Speaker, they deserve our deep appreciation.

It is an honor to have the privilege to recognize Brian Morton before the United States House of Representatives. I salute Brian for his selfless deeds and great acts of charity, and believe that all Americans can learn from his benevolence and commitment to adoption.

TRIBUTE TO THE BOY SCOUTS
FROM TEXAS' 1ST DISTRICT AT-
TENDING THE JAMBOREE

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2010

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, this is in tribute to and in honor of the Boy Scouts of America Troops 1524 and 1525 along with other Scouts and Scout leaders, located in my District in East Texas. This week they are participating in the National Scout Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia. This year's Jamboree carries on a long tradition, where just steps from the Capitol Building, the first ever Jamboree was held on the National Mall in 1937. Over the years, the Jamboree has become the pinnacle of all Scouting camps.

Every 4 years or so, Troops descend from all over America to celebrate the tenets they all hold dear and to develop even further the life lessons Scouting is so effective in teaching. The entire process has traditionally done an outstanding job in molding boys into outstanding young men, while building character and instilling notions of personal responsibility, all of which have helped make America the envy of civilized nations.

This year's Jamboree also holds special significance because 2010 marks the 100 year anniversary of Scouting in America. Over this period they have grown into a premier youth organization and had very positive effects on millions of young males.

Individual Boy Scouts throughout Scouting's 100 year history have gone on to do great things and serve our country in manners that have brought great honor and credit to the United States. More than 50 percent of all NASA Astronauts were Boy Scouts. More than 30 percent of graduates from the Military, Air Force and Naval Academies were involved in Scouting in their youth and five of our Presidents were once Boy Scouts. Even within Congress, 199 of our current Members once participated in Scouting, with 22 achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. America is truly a better nation because of Scouting.

As an Eagle Scout and Member of Congress, I can truly say that the wisdom and leadership I gained in Boy Scouts still benefit me every day. All those who take up the mantle of effective Scouting can be identified by the traits named in the Scout Law as "trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent." If America is going to continue to be great then, in the paraphrased words of Alex de Tocqueville, America must continue to be good. The Scouting doctrines clearly assist in making America "good."

If we continue to see the young people in America living a morally sound life following the tenets supported by 100 years of Boy Scouting while dedicated to family values and country, then surely God will continue to bless America as He has during the last 100 years. To that end, the words from the Scout's Oath are as meaningful today as they were throughout Scouting's rich history:

On my honor, I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country;
To obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong, men-
tally awake and morally straight.

Participating in this, the historic Boy Scout Jamboree of the United States during the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts, are the following Boy Scouts from the 1st Congressional District of Texas: Thomas Alberts, Brian Allen, Beathan Andersen, William Arnold, Alex Baker, Peter Ball, Rusty Bell, Zachariah Brown, Nate Cargile, Christopher Carlin, Hartley Coker, Paul Cook, Robert Cooper, Brian Cousineau, Carter Crump, Charlie Cullen, Myles Elbel, Michael Fedell, Michael Fedun, Joshua Fields, Chris Finlay, Danny Fisher, Garrett Froats, Bryan Gilliland, Jacob Gage, Kyle Gage, Wyatt Gay, David Gean, Thomas Gunn, Rielly Hassell, Clint Hearn, Stratton Hibbs, Kaleb Hively, Trent Hood, Jacob Houck, Luke Hughes, Brian Humphreys, Andrew Kazlow, Kerrigan Keele, Nicholas Kottwitz, Francis Gene Lewis, Trevor Ligon, Garrett Manning, Noah Morrill, Koehler Munoz,